

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:18-cv-02421-RC**

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Assigned to: Judge Rudolph Contreras

Demand: \$0

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

**Plaintiff**

**AMERICAN OVERSIGHT**

Date Filed: 10/23/2018

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

represented by **Cerissa Cafasso**  
AMERICAN OVERSIGHT  
1030 15th Street, NW  
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(202) 869-5244  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Hart W. Wood**  
AMERICAN OVERSIGHT  
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V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **Peter T. Wechsler**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch  
1100 L Street NW  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/23/2018	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5753762) filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons, # <u>3</u> Summons, # <u>4</u> Summons)(Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 10/23/2018)
10/23/2018	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 10/23/2018)
10/25/2018		Case Assigned to Judge Rudolph Contreras. (zrdj) (Entered: 10/25/2018)
10/25/2018	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zrdj) (Entered: 10/25/2018)

11/15/2018	<u>4</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 10/25/2018. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 11/24/2018.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 10/31/2018., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 10/31/2018 (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 11/15/2018)
11/16/2018	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Peter T. Wechsler on behalf of All Defendants (Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 11/16/2018)
11/16/2018	<u>6</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 11/16/2018)
11/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>6</u> Defendant's Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time: it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall have until and including December 10, 2018 to file its Answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's Complaint. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 11/16/18. (lcrc1) (Entered: 11/16/2018)
11/21/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 12/10/2018, (tj) (Entered: 11/21/2018)
12/07/2018	<u>7</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 12/07/2018)
12/10/2018		MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit a proposed briefing schedule on or before December 26, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 12/10/18. (lcrc1) (Entered: 12/10/2018)
12/10/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 12/26/2018 (tj) (Entered: 12/10/2018)
12/18/2018	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Hart W. Wood on behalf of AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Wood, Hart) (Entered: 12/18/2018)
12/18/2018	<u>9</u>	Joint MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Proposed Briefing Schedule</i> by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Wood, Hart) (Entered: 12/18/2018)
12/19/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>9</u> Joint Motion for Extension of Time: It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit a proposed briefing schedule on or before January 3, 2019. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 12/19/18. (lcrc1) (Entered: 12/19/2018)
12/26/2018	<u>10</u>	MOTION to Stay by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 12/26/2018)
01/02/2019	<u>11</u>	RESPONSE re <u>10</u> MOTION to Stay filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 01/02/2019)
01/25/2019		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>10</u> Motion to Stay: It is hereby ORDERED that this case is STAYED until appropriations are restored to the Department of Justice. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the proposed briefing schedule previously due on January 3, 2019 shall be due within 14 days after restoration of appropriations. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 1/25/19. (lcrc1) (Entered: 01/25/2019)
01/28/2019	<u>12</u>	NOTICE of restoration of appropriations by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 01/28/2019)
02/08/2019	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 02/08/2019)
02/08/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>13</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report advising the Court further as to the status of this matter by February 20, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 2/8/19. (lcrc1) (Entered: 02/08/2019)

02/21/2019	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 02/21/2019)
02/22/2019	<u>15</u>	RESPONSE re <u>14</u> Status Report filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration)(Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 02/22/2019)
02/25/2019	<u>16</u>	RESPONSE to Plaintiff's Statement filed by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit plaintiff's statement)(Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 02/25/2019)
02/25/2019	<u>17</u>	RESPONSE re <u>16</u> Response to Document filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration Second Decl. of Cerissa Cafasso, # <u>2</u> Exhibit Exhibit 1 to Second Decl.)(Wood, Hart) (Entered: 02/25/2019)
02/27/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>14</u> the parties' joint status report, and <u>15</u> , <u>16</u> , and <u>17</u> the parties' responses, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall complete its proposed search by June 14, 2019. It is FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall propose a processing schedule by June 28, 2019. It is FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall file with the Court a declaration supporting the adequacy of the search by July 12, 2019. Plaintiff, should it choose to do so, may move for summary judgment on that issue at any point thereafter. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 2/27/19. (lcrc1) (Entered: 02/27/2019)
02/27/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Proposed search to be completed by 6/14/2019. Proposed processing Schedule due by 6/28/2019; Declaration due by 7/12/2019. (tj) (Entered: 02/27/2019)
06/27/2019	<u>18</u>	STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 06/27/2019)
07/12/2019	<u>19</u>	NOTICE of Filing by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit Michael Allen Declaration, # <u>2</u> Exhibit Vanessa Brinkmann Declaration)(Wechsler, Peter) (Entered: 07/12/2019)
07/15/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>18</u> Defendant's status report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report on or before July 31, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 7/15/19. (lcrc1) (Entered: 07/15/2019)
07/31/2019	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 07/31/2019)
07/31/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>20</u> the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report on or before October 29, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 7/31/19. (lcrc1) (Entered: 07/31/2019)
08/01/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 10/29/2019. (tj) (Entered: 08/01/2019)
10/29/2019	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 10/29/2019)
10/29/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>21</u> the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report on or before January 6, 2020. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 10/29/2019. (lcrc1) (Entered: 10/29/2019)